

San Diego DX Club Bulletin



July 2014



A mega-DXpedition fulfills its mission. Hard copy QSLs via OQRS arrived in mid-July.

We thank N200 and the SJDXA QSL Team for their time and energy to complete this massive task.

The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved "Top of the Honor Roll" status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow "Big Guns" or "Little Pistols", you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

For real time DX spotting and lively conversation on a variety of subjects, join us on 144.415 MHz.

JULY PROGRAM

HOWARD WHITE, KY6LA, WILL TELL US HOW TO BUILD A STATION CAPABLE OF HEARING WEAK SIGNALS IN A NOISY RF ENVIRONMENT

JULY MEETING NOTICE:

**JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road,
San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 278-6988**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2014

SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M.

DINNER, 5:30 P.M.

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A Word from the Prez . . .

Wild Bill, WB6BFG



Greetings DXers,

I hope this finds everyone in good spirits and that you're having all the fun (and DX) that you can. I sure hope that those that had chance to head back east for WRTC and the National Convention had a great time! As you likely know already Dan, N6MJ and Chris, KL9A took the Gold Metal. They operated from the tent dedicated to the memory of N6ND and did an incredible job racking up 368,700 more points than their nearest competitors Rastislav, OM3BH and Josef, OM3GI from the Slovak Republic.

Congratulations to John Barcroft for being selected as part of this esteemed competition. It takes quite a bit of commitment to even be considered to be part of the team. <http://www.wrtc2014.org/qualifying/team-selection/> Overall results can be found at this link: <http://www.wrtc2014.org/results/> Kudos also go to John for a *Fine Business* article in the San Diego Union. <http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2014/jul/09/tp-no-rest-for-weary-in-a-contact-sport/>

I hope that those of you that played in the NAQP RTTY contest had fun even though the propagation is in a slump. It has been a long time since we've seen the SFI below 100. Then the SFI took a wild swing up over 200 but CDX were unstable at best. There was an extended Tropo opening to Hawaii lasting many days. I heard the 144 and 432 beacons a number of times but didn't "find anyone home" to work. Chip Margelli posted this on YouTube: <http://youtu.be/Uucyw8YO9s0> There was also a nice JA opening on 6 meters on the 11th of July. See items below

This month's meeting will be at The Sizzler and our presentation will be by Howard, KY6LA. How to Build a Quiet Station: The talk will show you how to eliminate noise in your station using various "tricks of the trade". Please join us for an evening of fun, food and camaraderie!

Thanks to David Greenhut, N6HD, the Los Angeles Section Manager and his sidekick Rich, W6VX for making the trek down from Los Angeles. He did a nice presentation on his part in the DXPedition (also a humanitarian trip) to T33A, Banaba Island.

Continued on page 3

73, Wild Bill, WB6BFG

A Word from the Prez . . . Continued

Wild Bill, WB6BFG

From page 2

Remember to mark your calendars for the SCDXC Summer Bash on August 17th from 11:30 to 1700. The bash will be held at the home of Wayne and Sharron W6IRD & K6IRD 1243 Fairway Dr. Orange, CA 92866 Click here for further information: <http://www.scdxc.org/bash.html>

"Suddenly, the sun is eerily quiet: Where did the sunspots go?" <http://tiny.tavian.net/2lh8> This link takes you to an interesting article in the L.A Times. More information for propagation forecasting can be found at this link. <http://k9la.us/> The ARRL also has plenty of information also. <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive/ARLD029/2014>

This weekend is the RSGB IOTA Contest: 1200Z, Jul 26 to 1200Z, Jul 27.

Good news for those of you that sent QSL cards for FT5ZM or S01WS ~ They have started mailing them. I received mine in the mail last week.

Ron Stockton, N0RR, spearheaded the idea of putting together a questionnaire for the club members. This was worked on by Ron and the board members. We have a completed version that I will send out in a separate mailing to all of you for your input. Please take the time to fill out the form and return it to Ron.

Please remember that the club's newsletter is only as good as the information Ron receives, so just take the time to submit any DX related stories, tall tales, and musings of a madman or crazy lady for his consideration. Thanks Ron for all you do!

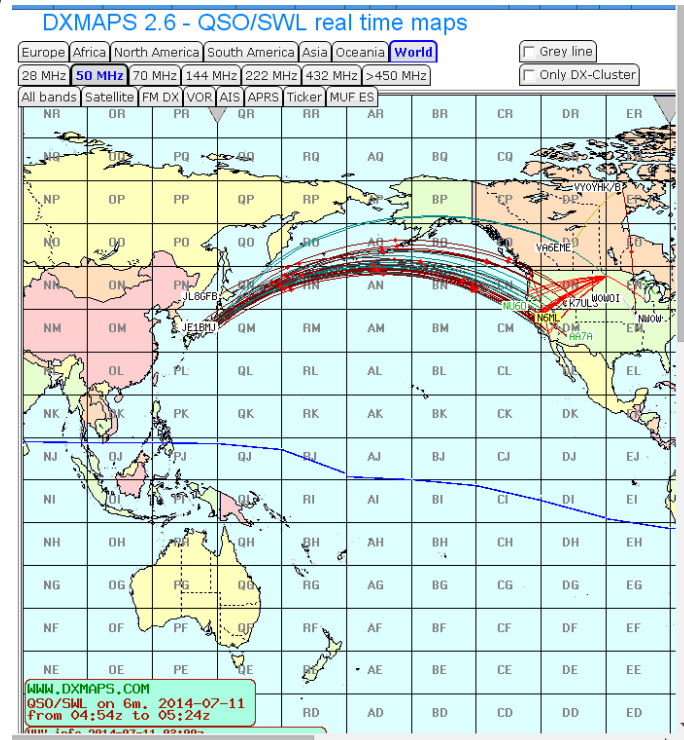
73 & 88's to the pretty ones!

Wild Bill ~ WB6BFG

"To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk" ~ Thomas Edison

73, Wild Bill, WB6BFG

JA 6 Meter Opening 7-11-14



JQ2IQW	0537Z	50123	CN73WC<>PM86TF	KA6BIM
JA9HBG	0537Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM86	N6RMJ
JE1TIV	0536Z	50072	58N	K6QG
JH3QNH	0535Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM74MM	N6RMJ
JH1RFR	0534Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM96SG	N6RMJ
JA9SSB	0533Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM86	N6RMJ
JJ3INK	0532Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM74	N6RMJ
JH1VUO	0532Z	50130	DM04MF<ES>	N6ENU
JQ1TIV	0532Z	50072	DN41CI<ES>PM95VW	K7ULS
JA1PBV	0530Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>QM06DE	N6RMJ
JA1RJU	0530Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM95	N6RMJ
JL8GFB	0529Z	50120	CM87<>QN03FB	KD6SOK
JF1IRW	0529Z	50133	CW	N6ML
JA1SVP	0528Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM96	N6RMJ
JA1UAV	0528Z	50175	CN73WC<>PM96	KA6BIM
JA2CXH	0527Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM94	N6RMJ
JH0INP	0526Z	50100.2	PM96<Es>DM41	KS7S
JH3LBD	0526Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM74JS	N6RMJ
JH0INP	0525Z	50100	Wkd w/~10w,5	K6YK-#
JA2BNV	0525Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM85	N6RMJ
JR3GWZ	0523Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM85BE	N6RMJ
JG1TSG	0522Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>QM05	N6RMJ
JF1IRW	0521Z	50133	CN73WC<>PM95	KA6BIM
JF1IRW	0521Z	50133	CN90RH<F2>PM95	K6ME
JA1UAV	0521Z	50175	DM13<>PM96	WB6BFG
JQ1TIV	0520Z	50072	CQ DX	N6ML
JA0EKI	0520Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM96CP	N6RMJ
JA1UAV	0520Z	50175	DN41CI<ES>PM96TA	K7ULS
JA3EGE	0518Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM74LP	N6RMJ
JE2PUC	0517Z	50115	DM14CP<ES>PM84	N6RMJ

Vice President Report

John, NA6L

A first timers Dayton experience with the "Dayton express".

Just to get one part of the trip out of the way, yes it is true that on the way home from Dayton I did leave my brand new Flex Radio in the overhead bin on the Dayton to Dallas return leg – I feel better for letting that out. I owe a big shout out to Howard G (W6HDG) for saving it (side note, the shipping box is designed to fit perfectly in the airline overhead bin - clever idea for show sales).

There is a small excuse for forgetting the radio. As Howard W (KY6LA) said, during the lost radio flight, I was completely "engrossed" in the conversation with the President/CEO of Elecraft and the Elecraft remoting "wiz kid" although they did most of the talking (they were seated directly behind me), I was like the little sponge listening to their discussion about the directions that Elecraft and Flex are going, neither gave anything away that was overly proprietary but what they did share was very interesting -- great guys and very smart.

Even though I got teased about leaving the Flex on the plane, I got teased even more for ignoring the attractive blond in the seat next to me, but hey, how often do you get to listen to leading edge radio executives from Flex and Elecraft talk "radio" between themselves for 2 hours?

It was SDR, Panadapter and remote heaven at Dayton with many options for inexpensive, IF driven Panadapters, SDR transceivers and SDR receivers. Even the Heiberling had what I understand was an Elecraft P3 Panadapter stashed under the table skirt feeding a big LCD display with a wide section of the band. They could have used the \$260 LP-PAN to do the same thing -- think about it, a \$260 box to give a \$20,000 radio, some "eyes"!

The good news is that all of us can add a perfectly good Panadapter to our existing radio if it has an IF output (or can add IF output) or even buy an SDR receiver – some the SDR receivers are not expensive and the software is free. I have found that IF driven Panadapters like the LP-PAN (\$260 delivered plus sound card) using NaP3 software work very well and in some cases have features that Flex is still trying to implement with the

6000 series, like FM and FSK. Although Flex seems to be on the right track with their proprietary multi "slice" SmartSDR software, volunteers or talented individuals have taken what was the original Flex SW and grown it into very usable Free SDR and Panadapter SW such as NaP3, HDSDR, #SDR etc. IOW, the free stuff is very usable. In addition other SDR manufactures have developed their own SDR SW.

Some of the SDR and/or Panadapter options to be seen were: LP-PAN, Elad SDR, Apache Labs SDR, Elecraft P3, Flex Radio SDR and Perseus SDR.

Remote interfaces were everywhere at Dayton, even ones that operate from basic touchtone phones. A few of the many options, were The RigExpert WTI-1, Pignology (several remote options) and Remoteshack.

There were also many choices for portable antennas, magnetic loops, folding hex beam, loaded verticals, the SteppIR CrankIR (interesting product) plus plenty of "antennas in a bag" along with masts made to be portable and easy to deploy.

For Pat (MHZ) the Flea Market was a gold mine but for the rest of us it was a multi acre junkyard swept by rain and hail. Some of the Flea Market stuff was so "valuable" it was left behind in big piles on the parking lot at the end of the show.

Although the Flex and Elecraft booths seemed to have plenty of activity and the Yaesu/Icom/Kenwood less traffic, most of the Japanese radios were being sold by their respective dealers. I asked a couple of the HRO booth staff how many Japanese HF radios they had sold and they both said "hundreds". It really was sad to see that the Japanese had no actual SDR products while SDRs from the USA, India and Italy grew.

It was my first trip to Dayton, but I'll be back, how often do you get to ask direct questions to company owners, ARRL executives, product developers, antenna designers and engineers -- just a few examples.

Martin F. Jue (MFJ) gracious and engaging and being of Chinese heritage, I can't imagine the discrimination he endured growing up in the deep south .

Gerald Youngblood (Flex) passionate and very bright.

Yes, the HAM "stuff" was great but for me it was the people that really made the show.

John, NA6L

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Ellen, N6UWW



Secretary's Report

Old Business: Wild Bill - WB6BFG reviewed the motion that was made and not handled in the best manner possible at the May meeting regarding the Club donation to the Poway Antenna Ordinance. A discussion ensued regarding the Club budget and referenced the Club's previous contributions to the San Diego Antenna Defense Fund, contributions from individuals, proceeds from Visalia, etc. 303 licensed hams in Poway will be affected by the outcome of the Poway Ordinance. Wayne - NN6R moved to amend the motion (tabled at May meeting) from \$3000 to \$1000. Dave Greenhut - N6HD encouraged the Club members in attendance to "dig deep" and contribute whatever is feasible as this issue is not going to go away. Jim - W6YA reminded the Club that our vote would be setting a precedent which we may not want to do. Larry - N6NC (who helped quarterback the San Diego Antenna Defense Fund with over \$100,000 of pro bono legal work) added his perspective which is always respected & valued. Jim - K6ZH suggested a fund be set up for these type of issues. Paul - WN6K asked what we got from Visalia (\$2000) and reminded the group that unless our membership increases in the next few years, we need to be more mindful of spending the Club's funds. John - NA6L wondered what other options we have to fund this (member contributions, assessments). Tom N6JOJ seconded the motion as amended. A show of hands made it apparent that the Club was not in support of donating \$1000 but a subsequent vote received enough support for the Board's recommendation for a donation of \$600 to the Poway Amateur Radio Antenna Ordinance issue (\$600 check sent to Gayle - K6GO). Per the By-Laws "Expenditures of over \$300 but not more than \$600 must be authorized by the majority of Club officers".

Ellen, N6UWW

Secretary's Report continued

New Business: At the suggestion of the Secretary, new member packets should be digitized and available on the website. Ed - AI6O offered to help with that project. Wayne - NN6R gave a report on the Club shirts and the difficulties he has gone through finding a new vendor & getting new artwork digitized. Best price he found was \$33 up to XX and \$35 for XXX but we need at least 13 shirts ordered before we can proceed and we only have 5 or 6 orders. Colors available are white, true red, orange, royal blue, light blue & forest green. The shirts will also be available in tall. The front will be embroidered on the right front with the Club logo and above the left front pocket with your name & callsign. The Club logo will be silkscreened on the back. Hats are also available for \$12. Comparable shirts are \$40 at Visalia. Order forms were distributed & will be available online soon. Wayne's efforts with this tedious project are much appreciated.

We are looking for somebody to take over the position of Editor for the Club Bulletin. Anybody interested please contact Ron -N0RR or Wild Bill - WB6BFG as the Editor (Ron) is anxious to retire from this job.

Guests: Rich - W6VX (whose attendance allowed the guest speaker N6HD to use the carpool lane all the way from LA!), Mike - N6CDX (friend of John K6AM from the broadcast radio world), Moose - KF7ITJ (interested in marine mobile DX & island contesting)

A roundtable discussion ensued. After the break Dave Greenhut - N6HD gave a presentation on his 2013 DXpedition and humanitarian trip to T33A - Banaba Island.

Treasurer's Report:

Statement Balance 6/30/2014 \$5804.50

Mark your calendars for the Summer Bash which will be held Sunday August 17th and hosted by SoCal DX Club.

Fly On The Wall

Ellen, N6UWW



What You Missed If You Weren't At Last Month's Meeting

If you didn't attend the meeting you have to rely on the "fly on the wall" (not to insinuate that there are flies at Sizzler – merely using an analogy) You missed hearing about which shade of blue is preferred for club shirts (have you ever really wondered just how many different shades of blue there are?!?!?), muffin tops, working W1AW stations, Skyros Island – J48TSL, T32AZ, Chino Hills swapmeet, W6BH (sk) remote property rumored to have been sold, FT5ZM cards still not received, WAS on 12m (elusive MT, NM, DE, RI), All Asia Contest, Stew Perry, AI60 got 1st in 6 call area and 6th in the world (with 26 contacts!) for 10-10 Int'l Spring CW QSO Party, 6m openings in early June, WAS digital (all JT65) on 8 bands LOTW only, Friday Lunch Bunch, WRTC, IARU, family medical emergencies, "599-73 – no! Numbah! Numbah! Yoh Numbah please!", "if you can't pronounce it, you can't work it", mobile operation from a converted 1987 ambulance (now a "hambulance"), ZA (only 6 licensees), VU7AG, 6m opening to Japan, what to do with old IRC's, FlexRadio, Field Day, Svalbard, Juan Fernandez Island, Goldfield, NV (DM17) June VHF contest, 6m CW pileups, ZF1A for IARU (K6ZH, K6GO, NA6MB & N6KIM), skimmer (94 discreet JA calls simultaneously on 40m), Harry's upcoming travels (June cruise of British Isles, fall Maui wedding of a granddaughter), YB8RW/P, 0C-145, MT on 6m, Triple Play, Montenegro on 80m.

Ellen, N6UWW

Editor's Ramblings

Thanks to Dennis, N6KI, Ed, AI6O, Charlie, NN3V, and Jim, K6ZH, for providing inputs this month.

As I listen to the round table reports and updates at the monthly meetings, it is apparent that the membership is very diverse with respect to our radio stations, operating experience and habits and interests in the hobby. We have newly licensed members with little or no operating experience, station builders, experimenters, technocrats, avid contesters, out-of-state members and veterans with 50+ years of operating at the "Top of the Honor Roll." As a result, I find it difficult to determine the desires and expectations of the typical member.

Therefore, as a new member of the Board of Directors, I thought it was logical to assess the 'the state of the club' by surveying the membership. I crafted a page of questions and distributed it to the club officers and other board of directors members for comments, additions and deletions. The result is the consolidated questionnaire with inputs and buy-in from the club leadership. Please take the time to complete and return it to me or Wild Bill so we can get a grass roots perspective on charting the future direction of the SDDXC. Instructions and options are on page 3 of the questionnaire.

The other information I want to include in the How's DX section is the 'Last EU QSO on 10m.' As the SFI and SSN decrease with the demise of Cycle 25, there will come a time when we can no longer work or even hear EU on 10m for months or even years. I'd like to capture that last date and time for the San Diego area. Because not everyone is a die hard 10m fanatic, I will also publish the 'Last EU QSO on 12m' information.

This is not a contest or prestige event, just a fun curiosity. To keep it simple, EU countries are as defined on the ARRL DXCC list. To keep it interesting, we will list the last date for each of the CQ Zones; 14, 15 and 16. To be fair, we will accept any station in zone 16. Conventional wisdom suggests the date for zone 14 will be later than zone 16 and that the 12m date should be later than the 10m date, so let's see what reality is from SoCal. If it not obvious, please note SP or LP.

RON, NORR

CW is not just a mode, it is a lifestyle

The SDDXC Top Ten

By John, K6AM

Total Countries Worked on 6 Meters

7/14	7/13	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.		N6CW	27	101	101	103	+1
2.	2.	N7CW	21	69	69	80	-
3.	4.	NA6L	15	23	23	26	+3
4.	3.	K6ZH	14	22	22	25	-
5.	-.	AK6ZZ	15	17	17	20	NEW
6.	8.	WB6BFG	9	11	11	14	+3
7.	5.	W6YI	9	8	8	12	-
8.	6.	N6VS	12	9	9	11	-
9.	9.	K6AM		6	7	11	+4
10.	7.	WA6MHZ		10	10	10	-

Total Countries Worked on 160 Meters

7/14	7/13	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	K6XT	36	216	216	221	+8
2.	2.	K6NA	35	?	?	205	-
3.	4.	W6YI	34	196	199	203	+4
4.	3.	W5BN		?	192	200	-
5.	5.	N7CW	35	145	145	176	-
6.	6.	W6YA	33	?	?	173	+3
7.	7.	K6AM		135	136	137	-
8.	8.	K0XB	25	82	83	88	+5
9.	9.	AD6ZJ	19	54	54	54	+2
10.	10.	N6KI		3	3	49	-

Some jockeying for position this time on 6 meters with Keith, AK6ZZ landing at the number 5 slot in his first appearance on the list. Lately, 6 has been open almost every day to somewhere, with occasional openings to South America, the Caribbean, and even Japan. The east coast is working Europe, but nothing this far west yet. Meanwhile, there were several nice jumps on 160. Art, K6XT extends his lead at number one while Jim, W6YI starts his run for second place. Most everyone else seems to be having some luck on 160 as well.

Both these bands are now being reported together since they both represent the ultimate challenge for the DX'er. Each takes the patience of a saint to wait out the ever-so-rare opening that may only last 5 minutes and be missed if someone in the right spot is not transmitting at just the right time. Our hats off to the top 10 winners in these categories.

Each month, we will publish top ten lists for one of the lesser recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, RTTY, phone, and CW. Please send me your totals for each band throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

SDDXC RESULTS—2013 CQ WORLDWIDE CW DX CONTEST

CLASS	CALL	SCORE	QSO'S	MLTS	FINISH		
MS – HP	ZF1A (K6AM K5YAA N4PN ops)	14,689,880	7,478	829	# 2 ZONE 8	# 2 NA.	# 9 WORLD
M2 - HP	NX6T (N6KI N0DY WQ6X NN6X ops)	5,125,397	2,947	653	# 4 ZONE 3	# 21 NA	
SO – HP	K6NA	3,486,366	2,064	611	# 2 ZONE 3		
SA – HP	W6YI	145,167	335	159			
SA - LP	WN6K	83,524	205	157	# 13 ZONE 3		
SA – HP 40	N6NC	29,520	139	82	#3 in 6 th call area		



How's DX?

This page consists of historical data so members can share information or brag about their accomplishments. For real time info, monitor the club 2m spotting frequency, 144.415 MHz. For future DX info subscribe to the ARRL weekly DX bulletin and/or W3UR's newsletter.

Sorry DXers, must have been a slow month for DX. Only one input received.

Station	Date	Time	Band	By
JH0INP	7/11/2014	7/14/2014	50 CW	AI6O

IARU HF World Championship

Call: NX6T

Operator(s): N6KI KL7SB WB6NBU NN6X NA6L

Station: NX6T

Class: M/S HP

QTH: CA

Operating Time (hrs): 23

Summary:

Band CW Qs Ph Qs Zones HQ Mults

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160: 0    0    0    0
80:  4   95    9    6
40: 100  291  27   13
20:  98  526  40   40
15:  29  518  26   26
10:   0    0    0    0
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Total: 231 1430 102 85 Total Score = 997,084

Club: San Diego Contest Club

Comments:

Best effort from Fallbrook portable site. Seemed like we could never get much action on SSB so we just stayed with CW. Guest Op KL7SB happened to be in SoCal and saved the day when 2 OPs had top bail at last minute. Steve was much improved from his last visit back in 2011 and anchored the early morning hours. Newbie SSB OP, NA6L, John, visited and was tossed to the lions, unfortunately there wasn't much action on SSB but enough to give him the Baptism of Fire in the Hot Seat and expect he will return for future efforts as we bring him up to contest operating speed. Computer network failed late Saturday afternoon forcing a shutdown of our S&P station and RFI into keyboards, which we have not seen in years came back to force us to do most sending by hand. Murphy just never sleeps ! 2 K3s, 70 and 40 ft Tower Trailers, 2 2 EL 40 Yagis, 2 3 EL SteppIR Yagis, 80 and 160 Inv V Dipoles.

73 de Dennis N6KI

THREE SD DX CLUB MEMBERS ACTIVATE ZF1A IN IARU CONTEST

Jim Price K6ZH, Mike Binder NA6MB, Gayle Olson K6GO

A few months ago Joe W6VNR said to Gayle K6GO something like “hey, I’m not going to be on Cayman at ZF1A during the IARU contest this year – would you like to take it?” Gayle (and new hubby Mike) enthusiastically said “Yes!” Then Gayle asked Jim K6ZH and his wife Joan N6KIM if they’d like to come along – especially since the trip would include Gayle & Mike’s first anniversary, and a delayed honeymoon. They also said “sign us up!”

So airline tickets were purchased; lodging arrangements were made (at the lovely Turtle Nest Inn on the south coast of Grand Cayman – a 10 minute drive from the shack); and callsigns were obtained from the “Cayman FCC:” Jim ZF2ZH, Gayle ZF2GO, Mike ZF2NA. We all met with Joe and with John K6AM to learn what we needed to know about the logistics of using the station plus the technical details to get it all running. Jim, Mike, and Gayle used the “house equipment:” an Icom IC-756, and a very old (but very capable) Collins 30L-1 tabletop linear. The antenna farm is legendary: a 40-through-10 meter log periodic at close to 200 feet, and a C3 and a PRO 67 at over 100 feet! There was also an 80 meter inverted vee as the yagi was not working. The plan was: arrive on Cayman on Tuesday July 8th before the contest; use Wed, Thurs, and Fri to get setup and to get on the air with our own call signs, and then hit the contest full speed on Sat. And that’s pretty much what we did.

Prior to the contest we made a combined total of over 600 QSOs with our own callsigns – including SSB, CW, and RTTY. In fact with Jim’s tutelage, Gayle made her first-ever RTTY Qs, using a Signal Link and computer sound card. We used Jim’s laptop, and a variety of peripherals that we each brought along to interface with the IC-756.

The contest started at 7 a.m. local time on Saturday. We traded off shifts of either 2 or 3 hours each, and covered the full 24 hours – Gayle and Mike on SSB, and Jim on CW. Everything was going along fine – with over 1000 Qs in the log when Mike took over at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

And then came a very close lightning strike. **ZORCH Ka-BOOM!** Mike saw a flash in the shack, and all of the equipment quit working. He then powered things back on carefully; the last item to “come up” was the antenna control switch – which then restored connection between the radio / amp and the antennas. But there were two “casualties:” the connection between the computer and radio (both control and CW) quit working and could not be restored – and we spent a lot of time trying. And the log periodic could no longer be rotated. But it was pointed essentially north which was fine – and we had other antennas to choose from! So we essentially logged manually on the computer, and Jim used his WinKey as a “CW memory keyer” for his last time slot. No biggie, but it broke our stride and cost us about an hour of QSOs. Otherwise all was well – we ended up with over 2000 QSOs and 1.3 million points. The whole contest time was “pileup practice” which we all dealt with to the best of our abilities. It is such a treat to operate from a big station like this in a “DX” location – i.e. it’s fun to be on that end of the pileup sometimes!

We owe much gratitude to Joe W6VNR for not only “loaning” us the time slot for this contest, but also helping us with the logistics of getting licenses, coordinating with the station owner, etc. And we want to also thank John K6AM for his very specific technical advice which helped us to get everything setup properly and quickly upon our arrival – and it went fine! And, of course, we thank Andrew ZF1EJ, the station owner for allowing us to use the station. He was graciously available whenever we needed his help.

This was fun – and a great way to celebrate Gayle & Mike’s first anniversary. Cheers!!



Mike ZF2NA (NA6MB) and Gayle ZF2GO (K6GO) working stations from the ZF1A station



Jim ZF2ZH (K6ZH) at the radio



Jim, Joan (N6KIM), and Gayle at 7 Mile Beach on Grand Cayman Island

More Information on July's Program

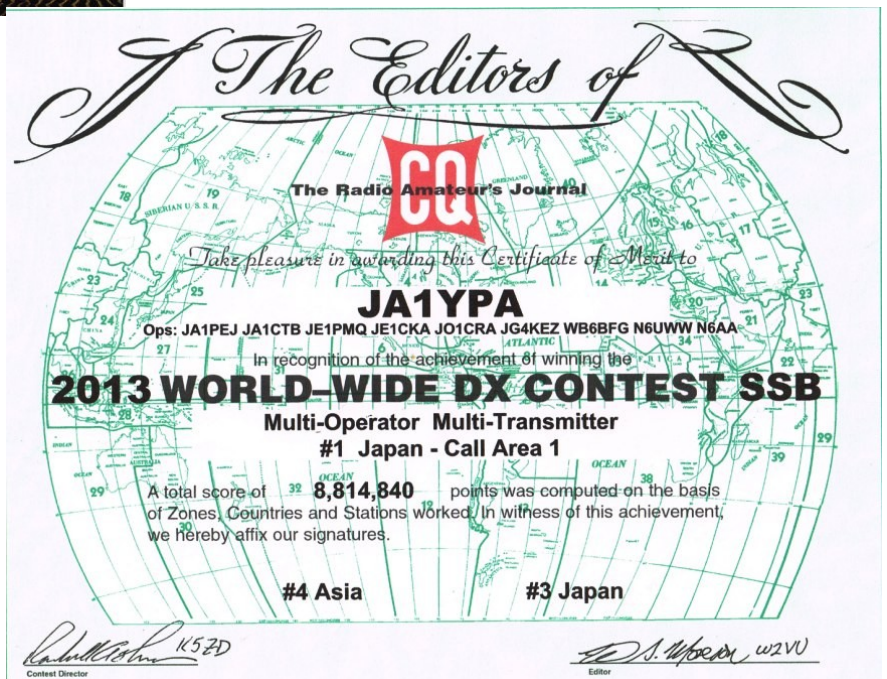
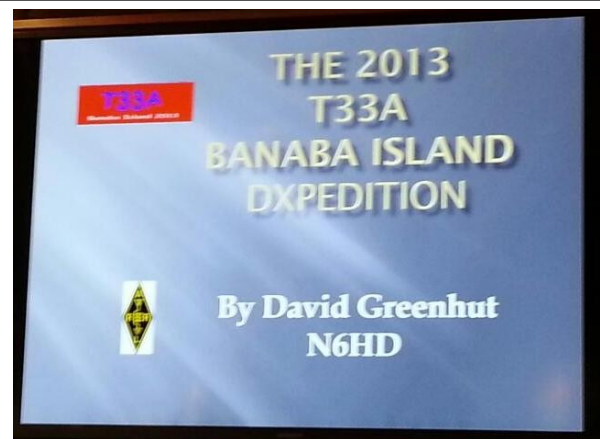
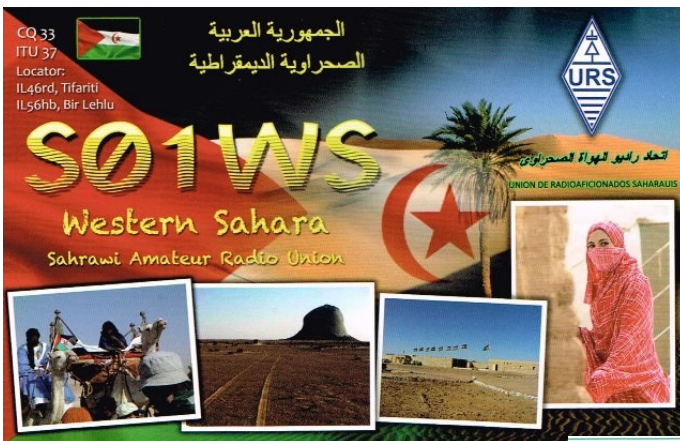


Howard S. White Ph.D. P. Eng.,
VE3GFW/K6 ex-AE6SM KY6LA

How To Build a Quiet Station

In spite of the fact that KY6LA lives on Mt Soledad in perhaps the noisiest RF environment in San Diego, KY6LA was the first North American station to post a legitimate spot for FT5ZM. While having a large antenna obviously helps, the real reason that the KY6LA station hears so well is that it is very quiet.

The talk will show you how to eliminate noise in your station using various “tricks of the trade” such as getting rid of EMI Producing Wall Warts, using clean DC power, setting up RF ground buses, using clean AC power, quieting your Internet and most important reducing the “phase noise” in your receiving environment with the introduction of 21st century radio



Greetings to all DX Club Members from the members of the Poway Amateur Radio Society (PARS).

We are writing to your Club newsletter in order to ask all DX Club members to support us in our hour of greatest need.

As you are all aware, the PARS members worked long and hard to bring the matter of an amateur radio ordinance to a head, in order to convince the Poway City Council to act so as to become compliant with federal and State regulations.

The hour has arrived!

On Tuesday August 5th, the Poway City Council will consider two drafts of versions of what we have worked so long and hard to get approved.

One draft antenna ordinance version is likely to be exactly what Poway hams asked for. The second draft amateur radio ordinance will be somewhat similar but likely contain an onerous provision that one City Council member introduce at the eleventh hour, in response to pressure from the major special interest group that opposes amateur radio antennas in Poway.

The Poway City Council will vote for one or the other.

Poway hams are guardedly optimistic that 3 City Council members remain in full support of the amateur radio ordinance desired by Poway hams.

In a City Council vote on the choice between the two draft ordinances, as the Council is composed of 5 voting members, the 3 who support the hams' recommendations will outweigh the other 2 votes.

However, this is not a solid position. As politicians, they will bend with the winds blowing at the Council meeting.

We have solid information that the opponents of amateur radio in Poway will mount a MAJOR PRESENCE at this City Council meeting.

So we beseech DX Club members to come out in force to attend the Poway City Council meeting on August 5th.

As at the last meeting, PARS will provide at no cost hot dogs and refreshments to all hams and their guests who show up to support the Poway hams.

Meet at the Poway City Hall parking lot at 6:00 PM, Tuesday August 5th. Hot dogs and refreshments will be distributed (no cost), PARS ID badges will be distributed (no cost) to all so that the amateur presence can be clearly counted by the politicians.

The Poway City Hall parking lot is located at 13325 Civic Center Drive, Poway, CA 92064.

If you have any questions please contact NN3V. He may be reached at NN3V@arrl.net

73 de NN3V